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a central processing unit (CPU);  
a first storage system that is coupled to the CPU [so that the CPU can] to store information written from the CPU [in the first storage system];  
a second storage system;  
at least one communication link coupling the second storage system to the CPU, <sup>at least</sup> one communication link including a network cloud that is shared with at least one other source so that no portion of the network cloud is dedicated exclusively to transferring information between the CPU and the second storage system; and  
a mirroring controller, responsive to the information being written from the CPU to the first storage system, to mirror at least some of the information written from the CPU to [stored in] the first storage system in the second storage system by transferring the at least some of the information through the network cloud.

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11. (Amended) The computer system of claim 10, wherein the mirroring controller includes means, distributed between the first and second storage systems, for mirroring the at least some of the information written from the CPU to [stored in] the first storage system in the second storage system.

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13. (Amended) The computer system of claim 1, wherein the at least one communication link extends between the first and second storage systems such that the second storage system is coupled to the CPU via the first storage system, and wherein the computer system further includes:

a third storage system coupled to the first storage system via the at least one communication link so that the CPU can store information in the third storage system via the first storage system; and

wherein the mirroring controller includes means, distributed between the first, second and third storage systems, for mirroring the at least some of the information written from the CPU to [stored in] the first storage system in both of the second and third storage systems.

Sub C37  
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22. (Amended) A computer system comprising:  
a central processing unit (CPU);  
a first storage system that is coupled to the CPU [so that the CPU can] to store information written from the CPU [in the first storage system];  
a second storage system;  
at least one communication link coupling the second storage system to the CPU, the at least one communication link including at least one wireless connection; and  
a mirroring controller, responsive to the information being written from the CPU to the first storage system, to mirror at least some of the information written from the CPU to [stored in] the first storage system in the second storage system by transferring the at least some of the information over the at least one communication link.

Sub C5  
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31. (Amended) A computer system comprising:  
a central processing unit (CPU);  
a first communication link;  
a first storage system; a first communication link coupling the first storage system] coupled to the CPU via the first communication link [so that the CPU can] to store information written from the CPU [in the first storage system];  
a second storage system;  
a second communication link coupling the second storage system to the CPU;  
a third storage system;  
a third communication link coupling the third storage system to the CPU; and  
a mirroring controller, responsive to the information being written from the CPU to the first storage system, to mirror at least some of the information written from the CPU to [stored by the CPU in] the first storage system in both the second and third storage systems.

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37. (Amended) A method of operating a computer system that includes a central processing unit (CPU), a first communication link, a first storage system [, a first communication

Sub C7

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link coupling the first storage system] coupled to the CPU [so that the CPU can] via the first communication link to store information written from the CPU [in the first storage system], a second storage system, a second communication link coupling the second storage system to the CPU, a third storage system, and a third communication link coupling the third storage system to the CPU, the method comprising a step of:

- (A) in response to the information being written from the CPU to the first storage system, mirroring at least some of the information written from the CPU to [stored by the CPU in] the first storage system in both the second and third storage systems by transferring the at least some of the information over the second and third communication links.

Sub C8  
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39. (Amended) A method of mirroring information stored in a computer system comprising a central processing unit (CPU), a first storage system that is coupled to the CPU [so that the CPU can] to store information written from the CPU [in the first storage system], and a second storage system coupled to the CPU by at least one communication link, the at least one communication link including a network cloud that is shared with at least one other resource so that no portion of the network cloud is dedicated exclusively to coupling the second storage system to the CPU, the method comprising a step of:

- (A) in response to the information being written from the CPU to the first storage system, transmitting at least some of the information written from the CPU to [stored by the CPU in] the first storage system into the network cloud with the second storage system designated as a destination for the at least some of the information, so that the at least some of the information can be transferred through the network cloud and mirrored in the second storage system.

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Sub C9  
47. (Amended) A computer system capable of mirroring information in a remotely disposed target storage system that is coupled to the computer system via at least one communication link that includes a network cloud that is shared with at least one other resource,

the computer system comprising:

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- a central processing unit (CPU) coupled to the network cloud;
- a source storage system that is coupled to the CPU [so that the CPU can] to store information written from the CPU [in the source storage system]; and
- a controller, responsive to the information being written from the CPU to the source storage system, to transfer at least some of the information written from the CPU [stored in the source storage system] into the network cloud so that the at least some of the information can be mirrored in the target storage system.

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53. (Amended) A computer system capable of mirroring information in a remotely disposed target storage system that is coupled to the computer system via at least one communication link that includes at least one wireless connection, the computer system comprising:

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- a central processing unit (CPU) coupled to the at least one communication link;
- a source storage system that is coupled to the CPU [so that the CPU can] to store information written from the CPU [in the source storage system]; and
- a controller, responsive to the information being written from the CPU to the source storage system, to transfer at least some of the information written from the CPU [stored in the source storage system] into the network cloud so that the at least some of the information can be mirrored in the target storage system.

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Sub A<sup>10</sup>

56. A computer system comprising:

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- a central processing unit (CPU);
- a first storage system that is coupled to the CPU [so that the CPU can] to store information written from the CPU [in the first storage system];
- a second storage system;
- at least one communication link coupling the second storage system to the CPU so that the CPU can store information in the second storage system, the at least one communication link

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being selected from [one of] the group consisting of an Ethernet link, an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) link, an FDDI link and a fibre channel link; and

A10 a mirroring controller, responsive to the information being written from the CPU to the first storage system, to mirror at least some of the information written from the CPU to [stored in] the first storage system in the second storage system by transferring the at least some of the information over the at least one communication link.

59. (Amended) A computer system comprising:

Sub C147  
A11 a central processing unit (CPU);

a first storage system that is coupled to the CPU [so that the CPU can] to store information written from the CPU [in the first storage system];

a second storage system;

at least one communication link coupling the second storage system to the CPU so that the CPU can store information in the second storage system, the at least one communication link being [one of] selected from the group consisting of a packet switched network and a cell switched network; and

a mirroring controller, responsive to the information being written from the CPU to the first storage system, to mirror at least some of the information written from the CPU to [stored in] the first storage system in the second storage system by transferring the at least some of the information over the at least one communication link.

61. (Amended) A computer system comprising:

A12  
Sub C167 a central processing unit (CPU);

a first storage system that is coupled to the CPU [so that the CPU can] to store information written from the CPU [in the first storage system];

a second storage system;

at least one communication link coupling the second storage system to the CPU so that the CPU can store information in the second storage system, the at least one communication link